

MOBILE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES: Our approach



At Carr Manor, we believe digital technologies are useful for supporting learning, sharing information and communicating. We don't know what technologies our children will use in the future, but we can be certain that digital technology will play a significant role in how they socialise, study, work and engage with their families and communities for the rest of their lives.

Rather than lock devices away and leave families to work out how best to navigate this complex and rapidly changing world, we see our role as educators is to help prepare children for a digitally connected future.

We want children to use the technology responsibly, maturely and appropriately, now and into adulthood.

To achieve this, we have the following curriculum, expectations on staff and children, and support for families:

OUR CURRICULUM

Children learn essential digital literacy skills during their Digital Media lessons in key stages 2 and 3, their Peace Education lessons in Year 9 and Personal Development Programme sessions in key stage 4. This includes:

- Using digital technologies to support learning
- Data privacy and digital footprints
- Hacking and cyber security
- Misinformation and verifying truth online
- Online addiction, algorithms and advertising.

Children also discuss online safety and responsible use of technology in Coaching+ sessions.

OUR EXPECTATIONS ON PRIMARY PHASE CHILDREN

If you bring your device to school

- Hand in your mobile phone to your class teacher at the start of the school day.
- Your class teacher will return your mobile phone to you at the end of the school day.

Respect, privacy and safety

- Respect others online and offline.
- Do not take photos, videos, or recordings of others without their permission.
- Keep your personal information safe and think carefully before sharing online.
- Report content that is inappropriate and speak to your Coach, the Inclusion team or the Safeguarding team if you are concerned about things you see online.
- Remember that not everyone has the same access to technology and respect other views on this.

OUR EXPECTATIONS ON SECONDARY PHASE CHILDREN

In Lessons and Coaching

- Phones should remain silent and out of sight, unless explicitly permitted for learning purposes.
- School devices (such as laptops and iPads) should be looked after as if they were your own.

Around school

- Phones may be used at break and lunch.
- Like hats and hoods, earphones and headphones should not be worn inside the building.
- Keep audio levels low and do not use portable speakers to maintain a respectful and calm environment.
- You are responsible for keeping your digital devices safe.

Organisation and learning

- Think about how you can use your phone to support your learning (access to your timetable, Microsoft Teams for Independent Learning, educational apps etc).
- Notifications must be silent and under control so they don't interfere with your focus.
- Monitor your screen time to ensure you are getting the balance right.
- Charge your phone at home - please don't ask staff if you can charge your phone at school.

Respect, privacy and safety

- Respect others online and offline.
- Do not take photos, videos, or recordings of others without their permission.
- Keep your personal information safe and think carefully before sharing online.
- Report content that is inappropriate and speak to your Coach, the Inclusion team or the Safeguarding team if you are concerned about things you see online.
- Remember that not everyone has the same access to technology and respect other views on this.

OUR SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

We are keen to offer support to families and recognise the complexity parents and carers face when deciding the best way to support their child and their digital device use. In addition to discussions with your child's Coach at Meet Your Coach Day appointments, we would like to offer opportunities for families to discuss with and learn from each other about how to support their children. These parent/carer workshops will focus on:

- What type of device is appropriate for my child's age?
- When, where and for how long is appropriate screen time for my child?
- What activity is appropriate and what restrictions should I put in place?
- How can I monitor my child's use of technology?

More details on these sessions will be communicated directly with families. In addition, we recommend the following online resources:



<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>



<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice>



<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/>



<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/get-advice/>